

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Status of the Claims.

Claims 1-19 and 21-74 are pending with entry of this amendment, claim 20 being cancelled. Claims 1-3, 9, 10, 13, 14, 19, 23-26, 31, 32 and 57 are amended herein. These amendments introduce no new matter and support is replete throughout the specification. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter or agreement with any objection or rejection of record.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph.

Claims 1-74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention. Applicants traverse.

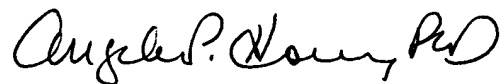
Claim 1-3, 9, 10, 13, 14, 19, 23-26, 31, 32 and 57 have been amended to correct informalities and to further clarify the elements of the claimed invention, as helpfully suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are not indefinite and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. **If the claims are deemed not to be in condition for allowance after consideration of this Response, a telephone interview with the Examiner is hereby requested.** Please telephone the undersigned at (510) 337-7871 to schedule an interview.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

- 1) A petition to extend the period of response for 3 months;
- 2) A transmittal sheet;
- 3) A fee transmittal sheet; and,
- 4) A receipt indication postcard.